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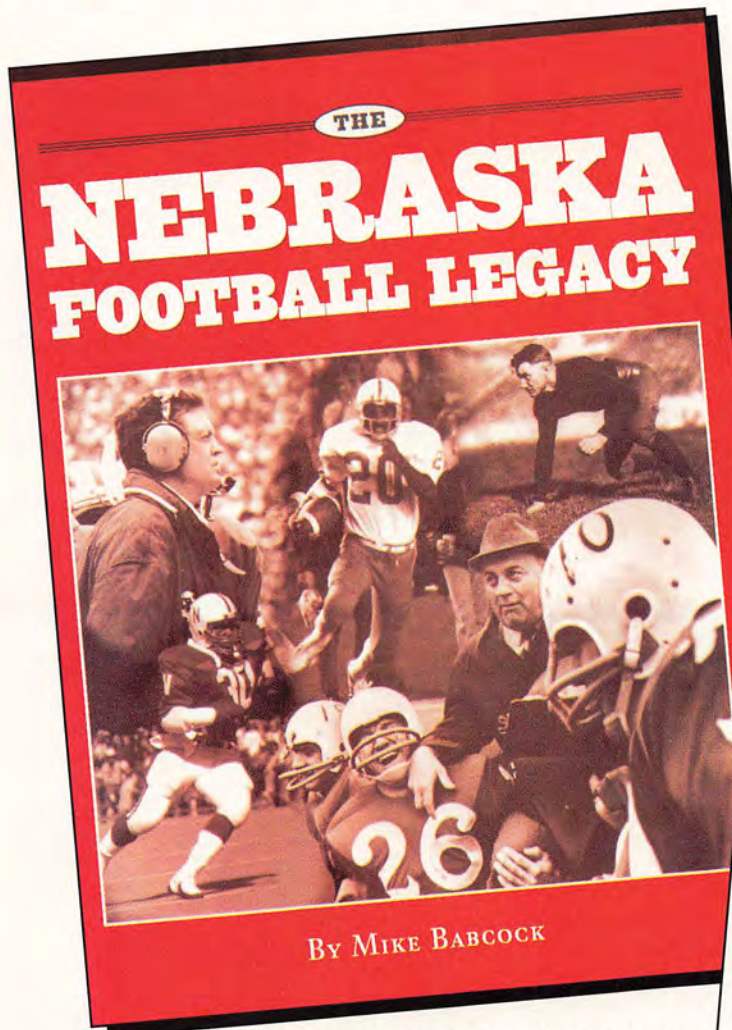


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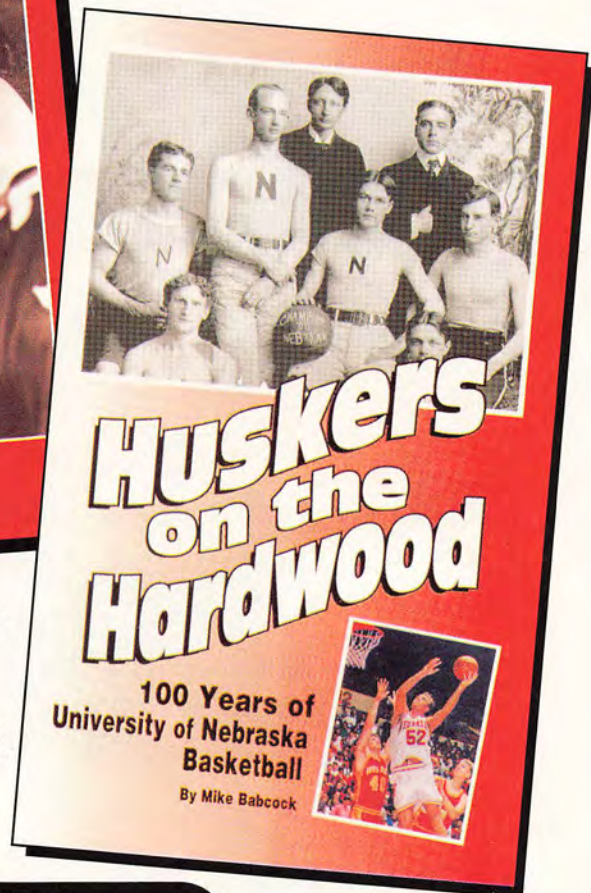
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CONTENTS

November 11, 1995 • Volume 15, No. 16

FEATURES

Double Vision 18

Despite sharing time with fellow "W-Back" Calvin Jones, Derek Brown had a spectacular career before leaving early for the NFL.

Home Boys 22

The Cornhuskers' offense has had an unusually heavy in-state influence with 16 of the top 22 positions filled by native



22

DEPARTMENTS

Letters 6
State 8
Iowa State Reviewed 10
1995 Game Statistics 14

Scouting Kansas 16
Recruiting 26
Overview 29



16



18

- 1: In which subject does Tom Osborne have his doctoral degree?
- 2: Dave Humm's 353 career pass completions broke whose school record?
- 3: In 1950 Bobby Reynolds set an NCAA record that stood for 38 years. What was the record?
- 4: Which Husker tight end later became a Nebraska state senator?
- 5: Who is Nebraska's all-time leading kick scorer?

Husker Trivia

Answers to last week's questions (Nov. 4 issue)

1: Bob Devaney had been an all-conference end and MVP for Alma College in Michigan. He was the captain of his team and graduated in 1939. 2: The Huskers were tied by Oklahoma State (17-17) in 1973, LSU (6-6) in 1976 and Colorado (19-19) in 1991. 3: The Huskers have won eight regular-season games under coach Tom Osborne four times: 1973, 1974, 1976 and 1977. 4: Nebraska defeated the Penn State Nittany Lions in the inaugural Kickoff Classic. The score, 44-6, truly reflected a Husker blowout. Nebraska went on to hold the No. 1 ranking in the polls the entire season until the disappointment in Miami. 5: Quarterback Turner Gill was unable to play because of severe back spasms. He led Nebraska to a furious fourth-quarter comeback that resulted in a 37-16 victory.

One request we always get is for a Nebraska trivia section to be added to Huskers Illustrated. Well, the wait is over. Starting with this issue, each week we'll provide five questions from Lowell Greunke's trivia book "Husker Trivia." You'll have a week to mull over the answer before we print the answers. If you'd like a copy of "Husker Trivia," send a check for \$13.95 to: Husker Trivia, P.O. Box 44142, Omaha, NE, 68144

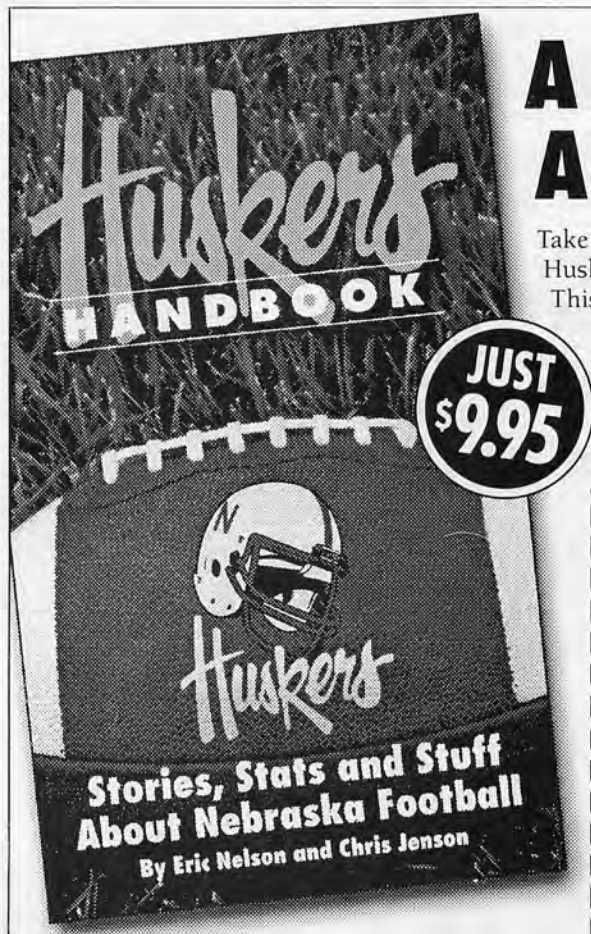
LETTERS

Being an out-of-state *Huskers Illustrated* subscriber, I have one question for you: Why can't you publish an injury list each week? I scout the two deep you provide to find out who is still healthy. Every now and then, I'll see a player's name missing, i.e. Phil Ellis. It's apparent that he's not on the two-deep, but what happened to him? Did he get beat out or did he get injured.

This bit of information would really help us travelers out.

Bob Moore
Boston

We don't run an injury report after the game because we have to go to press at 10 a.m. Sunday. At that time there is no official listing of injuries provided to



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the press. The injury update is usually made available on Monday, after the team doctors have examined the athletes. If we were to run a graph it would be purely speculation on our part as to how long an individual would be out.

As for Ellis, Mike Babcock had reported in game recaps and "State of the Huskers" that the senior MIKE line-backer had been injured.

We will continue to keep you abreast of all the injuries that affect the two-deep, but for now we'd prefer to stay away from guessing. — Editor

Maybe Florida State should start moving its open date to early in the year. For the second year, Nebraska leaped them in the polls with a strong performance on a week in which the Seminoles sat at home watching television. Don't expect the Huskers to let up now that it's in the driver's seat.

I still think it's a shame that Ohio State will be out of the picture. But it's their own fault for not voicing more concern that the Big Ten put pressure on the Rose Bowl to join the Bowl Coalition. I didn't hear the Buckeyes complaining when Penn State got hosed last year. Now that the shoe is on the other foot, they're crying.

Jim Jones
Portland, Ore.

As another recruiting season comes closer to ending, a thought pops to mind — why are we so successful, yet never have what the "experts" call a top class. In the last few years, Tommie Frazier and Ahman Green are like the only two that people nationwide were salivating over. Yet even though we don't recruit great classes, we've won one title and should challenge for another this year.

This tells me either Tom Osborne is the master at getting the most out of players or the experts don't know as much as they pretend to. I think it's a little of both, with an emphasis on the first. Trust me, I don't mind that we don't get the attention in February. I rest comfortably knowing I'll hear all about our team in August and late December when it really counts. Here's to another "sub-par" season.

Warren Farmer
Ponca City, Okla.

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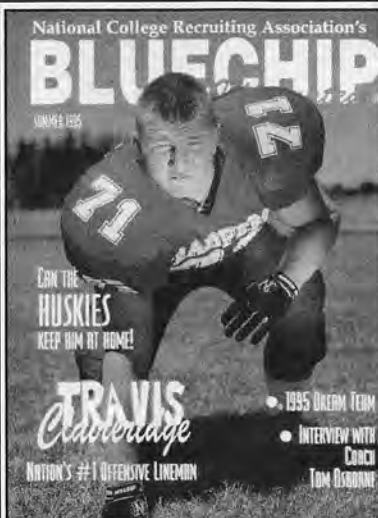
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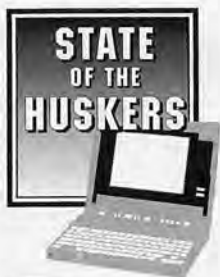
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Right Place, Right Time

Opportunities and maturity made it easier for Green, Kelsay and Brown to burst into the lineup

By MIKE BABCOCK

Chad Kelsay was in the right place at the right time, and not by accident.

Late in the first half of the Nebraska football team's 49-25 victory over Kansas State, Kelsay deflected a Wildcat shovel pass into the hands of teammate Luther Hardin, who carried the ball 3 yards for a touchdown. The play showcased not only Kelsay's remarkable reflexes but also his aptitude for the game.

Even though he is a true freshman, he looks and acts more mature than his 18 years. Consider his description of the play on which he assisted Hardin's touchdown.

"An offense doesn't leave the rush end unblocked unless there's a glitch," said Kelsay, who is a rush end, or outside linebacker. "When we feel no pressure, we're supposed to throw on the brakes."

Kelsay was repeating a lesson learned from Tony Samuel, who coaches the Cornhusker outside linebackers. Samuel must have been pleased with Kelsay's apprehension of the lesson.

"Throwing on the brakes," in this case, requires self-discipline. The offense attempts to lure the outside linebacker toward the quarterback by not blocking him. "It's awfully tantalizing to see the quarterback there," said Kelsay, whose first responsibility in that situation "is to hit the running back."

Nebraska knew Kansas State's tendencies. It had scouted the Wildcats well. Kelsay reacted as he should, holding back in anticipation of the shovel pass. He reached out and, for an instant, thought he might be able to catch the ball himself. It appeared to be suspended in mid-air, right there for the taking.

"Everything comes so fast. But it seemed to slow down for a split-second," Kelsay said.

From the stands, the play might have looked like a lucky break, cre-

ated by athletic ability alone. In fact, it represented the degree of understanding that separates those capable of playing immediately and those who need time to develop into major college players.

When such understanding is combined with well-developed physical skills, a true freshman can play at Nebraska, providing, of course, there is an opportunity at his position.

Grant Wistrom took advantage of such an opportunity at outside linebacker last season. Midway through his first season as a Cornhusker,

Kris Brown.

By mid-season, Green, the team's leading rusher, had worked his way to the top of the depth chart. He started for the first time against Missouri, becoming only the third first-year I-back to start for Nebraska during Tom Osborne's 23 seasons as head coach. Monte Anthony started as a true freshman in 1974. And Derek Brown started in his first season, 1990, though he sat out a year before joining the team. Kris Brown started the season as the No. 1 place-kicker, the first true freshman to do so since World War II, according to the *Omaha World-Herald*.

The Cornhuskers needed depth at outside linebacker, with the departure of Donta Jones and Dwayne Harris. They needed an I-back after Lawrence Phillips was suspended and Damon Benning and Clinton Childs were beset by injuries. And they needed a place-kicker to replace Darin Erstad, the first player chosen in the major league baseball draft last June.

Brown's opportunity was further enhanced by a knee injury that required reconstructive surgery and sidelined redshirt sophomore Ted Retzlaff all of last spring.

Because of a need for depth at quarterback, brought on when Brook Berringer was sidelined by traumatic bursitis, Frankie London, a true freshman from Lake Charles, La., began taking

snapshots with the top units in practice. London is redshirting. But if the need had arisen, he could have played.

Kelsay, who is from Auburn, Neb., spent last summer in Lincoln, preparing himself for this season. He admits he is surprised to be playing as a freshman. "I was hoping," he said. "I never wanted to tell myself I was going to redshirt. But I was wondering. I didn't know how realistic a goal it was to play (right away)."



When Ted Retzlaff went down with a knee injury, the door of a lifetime opened for Brown (35).

Tommie Frazier got his first start at quarterback. And Will Shields was playing offensive line at Nebraska just a few months after his high school graduation in Lawton, Okla.

The number of true freshmen who reach the top two units at Nebraska is small, however. There are only three this season: Kelsay, I-back Ahman Green and place-kicker

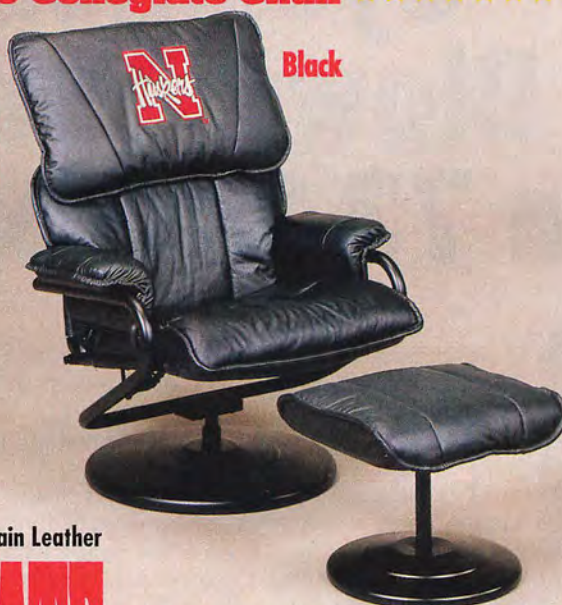
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Cyclones Blown Away In 73-14 Romp

It was a game in search of a final score, which top-ranked Nebraska could have named on this Saturday afternoon at Memorial Stadium.

The Cornhuskers were overwhelming, almost unstoppable.

"I've been in college football for 25 years, as a player and a coach, and that's as fine a team as I've ever played or coached against," Iowa State coach Dan McCarney said after watching his Cyclones lose, 73-14.

Nebraska's 73 points were the most ever scored against an Iowa State team. But the Cornhuskers hadn't tried to run up the score, according to McCarney. "Not at all," he said.

Tom Osborne "is a class act. I've always said that, and I

By MIKE BABCOCK

believe it. He substituted freely and often, and never, at any time in the game, did I think they were trying to run it up. They were just in another league. We're not even close to the football team Nebraska has. No matter who we put on the field or who they put on the field, we couldn't stop Nebraska."



Osborne used 96 players, 15 of whom carried the ball at least once, as the Cornhuskers rushed for 624 yards. Freshman Ahman Green accounted for 176 of those yards, on only 12 carries. He also scored four touchdowns, three on rushes, the fourth on a shovel pass.

"I thought Ahman played great," Osborne said. The simplicity of his summation was punctuated by a brief silence, then a smile.

"I think all of our backs played well," he said.

Clinton Childs gained 70 yards on only six carries. Lawrence Phillips, playing for the first time since being suspended after the Michigan State game, picked up 68 yards on 12 carries. And quarterback Tommie Frazier ran eight times for 62 yards and two touchdowns, to complement 10-of-15 passing for 118 yards and two touchdowns.

Frazier established a Nebraska career record for touchdowns by rushing and passing (75). He broke Steve Taylor's career record for rushing touchdowns by a quarterback (32). And he tied David Humm's record for touchdown passes (41).

Frazier is 70-of-123 this season for 1,148 yards and 15 touchdowns. He has thrown only two interceptions. "He's throwing with a lot more confidence now," said split end Reggie Baul, who caught a 36-yard touchdown pass from Frazier.

"He shows more patience." As a result, "we're about as confident with our passing game as

Finding running room proved difficult for Iowa State and the nation's leading rusher, Troy Davis. Davis, who was averaging 190.7 yards a game, was held to 121 on 28 carries.

Iowa State game photos by Bob Berry





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our running game right now," Baul said.

Frazier threw only three passes in the second half before being given the rest of the afternoon off.

He shoveled his first touchdown pass to Green, just under nine minutes into the first quarter, as Nebraska built a 14-0 lead before Iowa State's first play from scrimmage.

The Cornhuskers took the opening kickoff and drove 69 yards on eight plays to score, with Frazier running the final 4 yards.

Nebraska got the ball right back when Eric Stokes recovered the ensuing kickoff at the Cyclone 41-yard line. Kris Brown's high kickoff was held up in the wind.

"I don't know if they intentionally did that," McCarney said. "There was a wind blowing in . . . I have no idea. We just misjudged it. Our front five guys took off running to get into position to block somebody, and we didn't see it. We didn't communicate."

The Cyclones had the ball for less

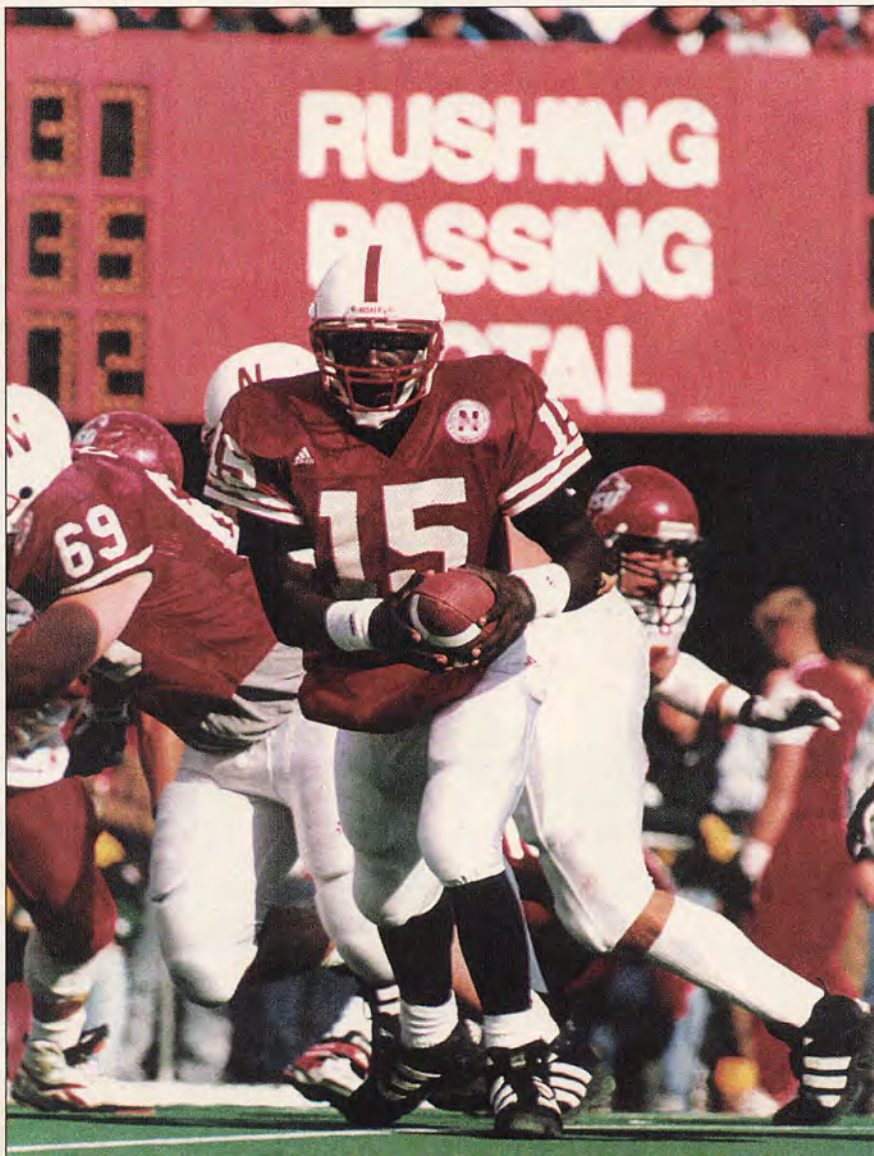
than four minutes of the first quarter, seriously limiting tailback Troy Davis' opportunity to run. Davis, a 5-foot-8, 185-pound sophomore from Miami, went into the game as the nation's leading rusher.

He averaged 190.75 yards per game and was on pace to become only the fifth rusher in NCAA Division I-A history to gain more than 2,000 yards in a season. The others were Barry Sanders, Mike Rozier, Rashaan Salaam and Marcus Allen. Nebraska held Davis well below his per-game average but didn't stop him completely. He finished with 121 yards on 28 carries.

"I don't know how anybody can shut him down," Cornhusker defensive coordinator Charlie McBride said.

Davis had to work for every yard, against a "bubble" defense. "It's a real hard defense to run against

**Tommie Frazier established a
Husker career record for
touchdowns by rushing and
passing to No. 75.**





Nebraska could have named the score against the Cyclones, who were victimized for 73 points.

because you take away all the cut-back stuff," said McBride.

Davis was limited to 53 yards rushing in the first half, 23 of which came on one run just before the intermission. After one series in the second half, Nebraska's first defense went to the sideline to watch the remainder of the game, defensive tackle Christian Peter said.

"We came into this week focused," Peter said. "We had to stop Troy Davis. The first thing we wanted to do was concentrate on the run."

The only other player to rush for 100 or more yards against Nebraska this season was Oklahoma State's David Thompson, who gained 128 yards.

Davis has been mentioned as a Heisman Trophy candidate. He's "a very fine back," Osborne said.

Even so, "he's a long shot (for the Heisman) at best because of our lack of national recognition," McCarney said. "He doesn't have the supporting cast many of the other candidates have."

"Under the circumstances, he gave a good effort. They didn't allow us to do near the things we (would have) liked to offensively. Their front seven are really, really a physical front seven. I didn't see many times when we were knocking red jerseys back off the football like we

have in the other eight games this year. And that's a credit to them."

Mike Minter and Jamel Williams each were credited with six tackles. Stokes and Terrell Farley made five apiece.

Luther Hardin, a senior outside linebacker, got his first start, replacing Jared Tomich, who was slowed by a sore back.

Tomich played, however, and recorded the game's only sack.

"Our goal is to hold people under 285 yards," McBride said. And the Cornhuskers accomplished that.

Iowa State finished with 264 yards. Even so, there is room for improvement on defense, according to McBride. "Is this as good a defense as we've had? No. We're still making some minor mistakes," he said.

Osborne said he was concerned about how the team would play coming off emotional victories over Top 10-ranked Kansas State and Colorado.

"I was a little bit apprehensive," he said. "Sometimes, there's a little tendency to have an emotional let-down, and I didn't think we did that. I think we played with consistency and good effort."

Nebraska played well enough that it didn't have a turnover and it didn't have to punt.

The Cornhuskers haven't had a turnover since the last play of the Washington State game. And there have been only seven games in modern school history in which Nebraska has not punted at least

once.

The Iowa State game was the Cornhuskers' first this season as the nation's No. 1-ranked team. They moved ahead of Florida State in both major polls after their 44-21 victory at Colorado. The move to the top gained credence when Florida State was upset by Virginia 33-28 on the Thursday night before the Iowa State game.

Nebraska has played at a consistently high level this season, prompting a reporter to ask Osborne if this were his best team. "I don't know," he said. "We'll know after Jan. 1. They're playing well right now. I've been very pleased with them."

Actually, Osborne meant Jan. 2, the night of the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl game in Tempe, Ariz., which will match the highest-ranked teams in the Bowl Alliance in a game intended to crown the national champion. That's the focus.

In response to a question about the records he broke or tied against Iowa State, Frazier replied, "The main thing I'm concerned with is winning and making it to Arizona."

Nebraska moved one step closer last Saturday, with a performance that elicited profuse praise from McCarney. "That's as fine a physical-looking team as I've ever seen," he said.

"Physically, just standing on the sideline, I've coached against Nebraska in the past, back in the '80s, and that's the best-looking football team I've ever seen." ■

STATISTICS VS. IOWA STATE

NOVEMBER 4, 1995

SCORE BY QUARTERS

TEAM	1	2	3	4	Final
NEBRASKA	20	18	28	7	73
IOWA STATE	0	7	0	7	14

TEAM STATS

	ISU	NU
First Downs	15	37
Rushing	6	29
Passing	8	6
Penalty	1	2
Rushing Attempts	32	68
Yards Gained Rushing	135	635
Yards Lost Rushing	14	11
Net yards rushing	121	624
Net yards passing	143	152
Passes attempted	24	21
Passes completed	11	13
Had intercepted	2	0
Total plays	56	89
Total net yards	264	776
Avg. gain per play	4.7	8.7
Fumbles-lost	2-1	0-0
Penalties-yards	4-36	8-89
Punts-yards	6-215	0-0
Avg. per punt	35.8	0.0
Possession time	24:01	35:59

DEFENSIVE LEADERS

NEBRASKA	Solo	Asst	TT	Sacks	Int.
Player					
Williams, J.	2	4	6	0	0
Minter, M.	2	4	6	0	1
Farley, T.	0	5	5	0	0
Stokes, E.	0	5	5	0	0
Peter, J.	1	3	4	0	0
Foreman, J.	1	3	4	0	0
Rucker, M.	0	4	4	0	0
Hardin, L.	1	2	3	0	0
Peter, C.	0	3	3	0	0
Wistrom, G.	1	2	3	0	0
Hesse, J.	1	2	3	0	0
Legate, B.	1	2	3	0	0
Colman, D.	0	2	2	0	0
Fullman, M.	1	1	2	0	1
Tomich, J.	1	0	1	1	0

IOWA STATE	Solo	Asst	TT	Sacks	Int.
Player					
Brown, J.	3	9	12	0	0
Cooper, M.	2	9	11	0	0
Straight, M.	2	8	10	0	0
Lincavage, M.	6	4	10	0	0
Sanders, T.	3	6	9	0	0

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

RUSHING NEBRASKA

Player	Att	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
Green, A.	12	176	14.6	64	3
Childs, C.	6	70	11.6	18	1
Phillips, L.	12	68	5.6	13	1
Frazier, T.	8	62	7.8	14	2
Schuster, B.	1	55	55.0	55	0
Makovicka, Jeff	5	39	7.8	27	0
Benning, D.	5	35	7.0	10	0
Makovicka, Joel	2	31	15.5	18	1
Sims, J.	5	25	5.0	9	0
Legate, B.	2	12	6.0	7	0

IOWA STATE

Player	Att	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
Davis, T.	28	121	4.3	23	0
Norris, G.	1	6	6.0	6	1
Bandhauer, T.	3	-6	-6.0	0	0

PASSING NEBRASKA

Player	Att	Cmp	Int	Yds	TD
Frazier, T.	15	10	0	118	2
Berringer, B.	6	3	0	34	0

IOWA STATE

Player	Att	Cmp	Int	Yds	TD
Bandhauer, T.	24	11	2	143	1

RECEIVING NEBRASKA

Player	Rec	Yds	APC	Lng	TD
Baul, R.	4	48	12.0	36	1
Vedral, J.	2	35	17.5	23	0
Green, A.	2	22	11.0	16	1
Benning, D.	1	17	17.0	17	0
Johnson, C.	1	14	14.0	14	0
Holbein, B.	1	9	9.0	9	0
Brown, L.	1	5	5.0	5	0
Phillips, L.	1	2	2.0	2	0

IOWA STATE

Player	Rec	Yds	APC	Lng	TD
Horacek, M.	5	66	13.2	24	0
Williams, E.	4	45	11.3	15	1
Guggenheim, R.	1	19	19.0	19	0
Davis, T.	1	13	13.0	13	0

FIELD GOALS NEBRASKA

Player	Att	Made	Distance
Brown	1	1	38

IOWA STATE

Player	Att	Made	Distance
None			

1995 SEASON STATS (9 GAMES)

RUSHING

Name	G	Att.	Yds.	YPG	Tds.
Green, A.	9	118	997	110.7	13
Frazier, T.	9	77	470	52.2	12
Phillips, L.	3	46	427	142.3	8
Benning, D.	7	59	385	55.0	4
Childs, C.	6	46	371	61.8	3
Makovicka, Jeff	9	54	331	36.7	1
Sims, J.	9	30	270	30.0	3
Schuster, B.	9	21	220	24.4	0
Makovicka, Joel	9	17	132	14.6	1
Berringer, B.	7	16	65	9.3	0
Turman, M.	8	13	35	4.4	1

PASSING

Name	G	A-C-I	Pct.	Yds.	Tds.
Frazier, T.	9	123-70-2	.569	1148	15
Berringer, B.	7	49-25-0	.510	244	0
Turman, M.	8	12-4-2	.300	73	1

RECEIVING

Name	G	No.	Yds.	YPC	YPG	Tds.
Johnson, C.	9	16	298	18.6	33.1	2
Baul, R.	9	13	266	20.5	29.5	2
Gilman, M.	9	15	239	15.9	26.5	1
Vedral, J.	9	12	228	19.0	25.3	4
Holbein, B.	8	11	117	10.6	14.6	1
Jackson, S.	8	4	39	9.8	4.9	2
Brown, L.	9	1	39	39.0	4.3	1
Cheatham, K.	5	4	31	7.8	6.2	0
Washington, R.	6	3	24	8.0	4.0	0
Childs, C.	6	2	19	9.5	3.2	0
Phillips, L.	3	2	9	4.5	3.0	0
Lake, J.	3	1	7	7.0	2.3	0

DEFENSE

Name	G	UT	AT	TT	Int.	Sacks
Farley, T.	9	22	25	47	3	5
Minter, M.	9	22	18	40	2	0
Colman, D.	9	16	20	36	1	2
Peter, C.	9	10	25	35	0	1
Terwilliger, R.	9	17	17	34	0	0
Hesse, J.	9	16	17	33	0	1
Wistrom, G.	9	16	16	32	0	4
Williams, J.	9	14	18	32	0	1
Veland, J.	9	12	14	26	1	0
Foreman, J.	9	7	18	25	0	0
Ellis, P.	6	9	14	23	0	2
Booker, M.	9	16	7	23	2	0
Peter, J.	9	6	14	20	0	0
Williams, T.	9	15	4	19	0	0
Tomich, J.	9	13	5	18	0	7
Stokes, E.	9	7	11	18	0	0
McFarlin, O.	9	10	7	17	0	0
Kelsay, C.	9	10	6	16	0	2
Penland, A.	8	5	11	16	0	0
Rucker, M.	7	3	11	14	0	1
Saltsman, S.	6	5	8	13	0	1
Warfield, E.	5	5	8	13	0	0
Fullman, M.	9	9	3	12	1	0

TEAM STATISTICS

	NU	OPP
Total Offensive Yards	5,337	2,649
Net Rushing Yards	3,838	739
Passing Yards	1,499	1,910


Scoring	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	TOT
NU	134	172	112	80	498
Opponents	34	35	31	47	147

1995 NEBRASKA FOOTBALL SCHEDULE


Record (Conference)	— 9-0 (5-0)
Aug. 31	@ Oklahoma St. W, 64-21
Sept. 9	@ Michigan St. W, 50-10
Sept. 16	Arizona St. W, 77-28
Sept. 23	Pacific W, 49-7
Sept. 30	Washington St. W, 35-21
Oct. 14	Missouri W, 57-0
Oct. 21	Kansas St. W, 49-25
Oct. 28	@ Colorado W, 44-21
Nov. 4	Iowa St. W, 73-14
Nov. 11	@ Kansas
Nov. 25	Oklahoma

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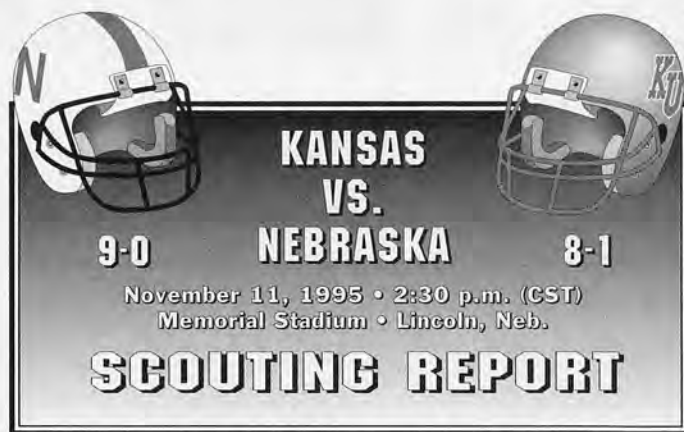
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PRESS PICKS

PRESS

• **Mike Babcock**, Huskers Illustrated: Kansas had some weaknesses

exposed by Kansas State. But the Jayhawks have every reason to come out fired up for Nebraska in front of a national television audience. But Nebraska will not lack focus, and it is possible that the Huskers will put up a lot of points against KU. But with the weather being a factor at this time of year, anything can happen.

Nebraska 38, Kansas 10.

• **Kent Pavelka**, Nebraska Sports Network: To go through an entire season without playing a "tight fit" game would be more than amazing. Even though I am tempted to say KU might be the one ... I think not. The Huskers will remember the close call in Lawrence two years ago. Besides, Kansas doesn't measure up defensively.

Nebraska 52, Kansas 14.

• **Chris Fowler**, ESPN: Nobody, no how, no way, nowhere stops the Huskers. The only intrigue: Will Nebraska commit a penalty or a turnover.

Nebraska 41, Kansas 21.

• **Chuck Woodling**, Lawrence Journal World: Nebraska may be on another planet, another galaxy, maybe in another universe. I'd love to see them play Ohio State, but that's not going to happen. Kansas is good, but it is not in Nebraska's league — no one in the Big Eight is.

Nebraska 35, Kansas 14.

Jayhawks Look To Keep Dream Season Rolling

By Mark Derowitsch

So much for the showdown on the plains.

With an opportunity to play host to top-ranked Nebraska with a berth in a possible national championship game on the line, the Jayhawks stumbled. And when Kansas fell, it fell hard.

The Jayhawks opened the season with seven straight wins but lost to Kansas State in the Sunflower State showdown 41-7 to end all talk of winning the Big Eight title.

Kansas' game against Nebraska lost all of its luster with the loss. But the Jayhawks proved by opening the year with a modest win streak that they're a team to watch out for. And Kansas has another chance to prove that by taking on the Huskers on Nov. 4 in Lawrence. The game, which starts at 2:30 p.m., and will be televised regionally by ABC.

One reason why Kansas State beat Kansas so convincingly was the play of the Jayhawks' interior lines. The Wildcats rushed for 335 yards, compared to 19 for the Jayhawks. Now it's easier to see why Kansas was never in the game.

Kansas coach Glen Mason knows

the play of his lines must improve in order for the Jayhawks to be competitive against a team like Nebraska, which leads the Big Eight in rushing.

"I don't exactly adhere to the cliché 'ballgames are won or lost on the line of scrimmage,' but I can tell you one thing: If you don't control the line of scrimmage against a good opponent, you're not going to have a chance," Mason said.

"That was enough said. That's not the only place we played poorly, but on both sides of the ball, offensive and defensive lines, we played atrociously."

Kansas averages nearly 400 yards of offense, so the line must be doing something right. Starting up front for the Jayhawks are tackles Rod Jones and Scott Whittaker, guards Cleve Roberts and Chris Banks and center Jared Smith. Smith is the runt of

the bunch, standing just 6-foot-1 and weighing 265 pounds. Jones, the left tackle, is a 300-pound senior and right guard Roberts and right tackle Whittaker both weigh 290 pounds.

Benefiting most from the beefed



KU's passing game has been reborn under Mark Williams.

up front are running backs L.T. Levine and June Henley. Levine leads the team in rushing with 605 yards and six touchdowns, and Henley has another 588 yards and eight scores. The duo gives Kansas one of the top 1-2 punches in the Big Eight.

The Jayhawks also throw the ball well. Quarterback Mark Williams averages 174.6 yards per game, and he through for 1,397 yards in the first eight games of the season. Williams is completing 61 percent of his passes, throwing 10 touchdown passes and seven interceptions.

Williams is backed up by junior Ben Rutz, a transfer from Northeastern Oklahoma A&M Junior College. Rutz spent two years at Nebraska before transferring to a junior college to get more playing time.

When Williams throws the ball, his favorite targets are wide receivers Isaac Byrd and Ashaundai Smith.

Byrd leads the team with 34 receptions for 394 yards and four touchdowns while Smith has 31 catches for 462 yards and three touchdowns.

Henley is also a threat in the passing game. Henley, who rushed for 1,127 yards as a freshman, has caught 21 passes for 246 yards.

Tight end Jim Moore hasn't been utilized much as a receiver, making just 10 catches in the first eight games.

Defensively, the Jayhawks are giving up 391 yards per game, including 219 through the air.

Up front, Kansas will go with defensive tackles Dan Dercher and Kevin Kopp, and nose tackle Brett McGraw. Dercher is the Jayhawks' best pass rusher up front, recording four sacks in mostly a backup role.

At linebacker, Keith Rodgers and Chris Jones play on the perimeter and Jason Thoren and Dick Holt anchor the inside.

Thoren leads the team in tackles with 56 while Rodgers has recorded 40 tackles, seven sacks and 12 tackles for loss.

Thoren, a 6-2, 230-pound sophomore, also has three interceptions.

The secondary is led by senior cornerback Dorian Brew, who has picked off four passes and has broken up another 18. Brew also has been in on 33 tackles and has one sack for a 14-yard loss.

Freshman Jamie Harris starts at the other cornerback spot. Maurice Gaddie, who has made 54 tackles and two sacks, starts at strong safety, and Thad Warren is the free safety.



June Henley (above) and L.T. Levine provide one of the best two-headed rushing attacks in the conference.

Sophomore Jeff McCord does the Jayhawks' place-kicking. He has made 8-of-11 attempts, with a long of 46 yards against North Texas. Darrin Simmons is averaging 44.7 yards per punt.

Before playing Nebraska, Kansas played rivals Kansas State and Missouri in consecutive weeks, meaning the Jayhawks play three big games in a row.

"That's the way it's on the schedule so we'll play it," Mason said. "We don't have a choice."

Kansas' biggest win of the year was a 40-24 victory over Colorado on the road in early October.

Nebraska has a 26-game winning streak going against Kansas, including a 45-17 victory a year ago. ■

1995 KANSAS FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Record (Overall/Conf.) — 8-1 (4-1)

Sept. 2	Cincinnati	W, 23-18
Sept. 9	@ North Texas	W, 27-10
Sept. 14	TCU	W, 38-20
Sept. 23	Houston	W, 20-13
Oct. 7	@ Colorado	W, 40-24
Oct. 14	Iowa State	W, 34-7
Oct. 21	@ Oklahoma	W, 38-17
Oct. 28	@ Kansas St.	L, 7-41
Nov. 4	Missouri	W, 42-23
Nov. 11	Nebraska	
Nov. 18	@ Oklahoma St.	

KANSAS VS. NEBRASKA TWO-DEEPS

HUSKER OFFENSE

SE 7	Reggie Baul	5-8 170 Sr
5	Brendan Holbein	5-9 190 Jr
LT 75	Chris Dishman	6-3 310 Jr
78	Kory Mikos	6-5 285 Jr
LG 67	Aaron Taylor	6-1 305 So
68	Steve Volin	6-2 290 Sr
C 54	Aaron Graham	6-4 285 Sr
53	Matt Vrzal	6-1 300 Jr
RG 69	Steve Ott	6-4 290 Sr
64	Jon Zatechka	6-2 280 So
RT 70	Eric Anderson	6-4 300 So
77	Adam Treu	6-6 295 Jr
TE 87	Mark Gilman	6-4 240 Sr
90	Tim Carpenter	6-2 240 So
QB 15	Tommie Frazier	6-2 210 Sr
18	Brook Berringer	6-4 220 Sr
FB 22	Jeff Makovicka	5-11 225 Sr
28	Brian Schuster	5-11 225 Jr
IB 30	Ahman Green	6-0 210 Fr
21	Damon Benning	5-11 205 Jr
WB 33	Clester Johnson	5-11 210 Sr
25	Jon Vedral	5-11 200 Jr
PK 35	Kris Brown	5-11 190 Fr

JAYHAWK DEFENSE

DT 90	Dan Dercher	6-6 255 Fr
83	Dewey Houston	6-4 245 So
NT 70	Brett McGraw	6-1 275 So
94	Pat Bishop	6-4 300 So
DT 57	Kevin Kopp	6-4 260 Jr
93	Adrian Greene	6-3 290 Fr
OLB 16	Keith Rodgers	5-11 200 Sr
47	Patrick Brown	5-10 195 Fr
ILB 38	Jason Thoren	6-2 230 So
61	Rob Lindsey	6-1 202 Fr
ILB 41	Dick Holt	6-2 238 Sr
60	Steve Bratten	6-1 215 Fr
OLB 49	Chris Jones	6-2 225 Jr
59	Derek Fairchild	6-1 210 Sr
CB 17	Dorian Brew	5-10 175 Sr
29	Manolito Jones	5-9 165 So
SS 24	Maurice Gaddie	5-10 185 So
2	Freddie Hammonds	6-2 195 Fr
FS 24	Maurice Gaddie	5-10 185 So
10	Thad Warren	6-0 195 Sr
CB 37	Jamie Harris	5-10 165 Fr
23	Jason Harris	6-1 175 So
P 19	Darrin Simmons	6-1 205 Sr

JAYHAWK OFFENSE

WR 1	Issac Byrd	6-2 180 Jr
80	Andre Carter	5-10 165 Jr
LT 54	Rod Jones	6-4 300 Sr
76	Justin Glasgow	6-6 295 Fr
LG 62	Chris Banks	6-2 285 Sr
73	Dameon Hunt	6-3 290 Fr
C 65	Jared Smith	6-1 265 Jr
79	Scott Whittaker	6-6 290 Jr
RG 77	Cleve Roberts	6-6 290 Fr
72	Shawn Vang	6-2 265 Fr
RT 79	Scott Whittaker	6-6 290 Jr
71	Derrick Chandler	6-7 305 So
TE 89	Jim Moore	6-3 245 Jr
13	Hosea Friday	6-2 235 Jr
QB 15	Mark Williams	6-1 180 Sr
8	Ben Rutz	6-0 190 Jr
RB 22	L.T. Levine	5-10 210 Sr
30	Eric Galbreath	6-1 195 So
RB 20	June Henley	5-11 205 Jr
25	Eric Vann	5-9 190 So
WR 6	Ashaundai Smith	5-6 160 Sr
87	Ryan Foy	5-6 160 Sr
PK 36	Jeff McCord	5-9 220 So

HUSKER DEFENSE

OLB 93	*Jared Tomich	6-2 250 Jr
58	Luther Hardin	6-2 245 Sr
DT 55	Christian Peter	6-3 300 Sr
97	Jeff Ogard	6-6 310 Jr
DT 95	Jason Peter	6-4 275 So
74	Scott Saltsman	6-2 260 Jr
OLB 98	Grant Wistrom	6-5 240 So
84	Mike Rucker	6-5 240 Fr
SLB 56	Jay Foreman	6-1 220 Fr
28#	Mike Williams	6-2 200 Jr
MLB 46	Doug Colman	6-3 245 Sr
41	Phil Ellis	6-2 225 Sr
WLB 43	Terrell Farley	6-0 200 Jr
91	Ryan Terwilliger	6-5 225 Jr
LC 20	Michael Booker	6-2 190 Jr
12	Mike Fullman	5-7 160 Jr
ROV 10	Mike Minter	5-10 190 Jr
4	Octavius McFarlin	5-11 190 So
FS 9	Tony Veland	6-2 205 Sr
16	Eric Stokes	5-11 180 Jr
RC 8	Tyrone Williams	6-0 185 Sr
2	Leslie Dennis	5-8 165 So
P 19	Jesse Kosch	6-0 180 So

Depth charts were compiled Nov. 5, 1995 # = duplicate number * = injured, but probable for game





Double Vision

Despite sharing time with fellow "We-Back" Calvin Jones, Derek Brown had a spectacular career before leaving early for the NFL

Editor's Note — This is the tenth of an 11-part series featuring the best Nebraska running backs of the modern era. Next week we'll profile Calvin Jones.

During Derek Brown's three seasons on the Nebraska football team, the "I" became "We." Otherwise, his accomplishments would have been even more impressive. And they were impressive enough as it is.

Brown ranks fifth on Nebraska's all-time rushing list, with 2,699 yards and 23 touchdowns. He averaged nearly 6 yards per carry and caught 13 passes for 100 yards. His ability has been underscored by a successful career in the National Football League.

Brown bypassed his senior season at Nebraska and submitted his name for the NFL draft, becoming the second Cornhusker to do so. The first was tight end Johnny Mitchell, who left after only two collegiate seasons.

Brown was a fourth-round pick of the New Orleans Saints in the 1993 draft. The gamble paid off.

Brown began his Cornhusker career in 1990. By 1992, he and Calvin Jones were alternating at I-back. They formed a tandem promoted by the Nebraska sports information office as the "We-backs."

Each of them rushed for more than 1,000 yards in 1992, the only time in Nebraska history that has happened. The accomplishment was even more remarkable because they played the same position. Brown started eight games, played in 10, and gained 1,011 yards on 169 carries. Jones gained 1,210 yards, on 168 carries, for a combined total of 2,221 yards. They scored 18 touchdowns between them.

Opposing defenses suffered from acute double vision. And Frank Solich, Nebraska's running backs coach, had the difficult but somewhat enviable task of trying to keep them both happy with the double-barreled approach. Early in the 1992 season, Brown and Jones went to Solich, at separate times, to say they would be more comfortable if he were to settle on one or the other.

top 10 Running Backs In The Modern Era

Bobby Reynolds	1950-52
Harry Wilson	1964-66
Jeff Kinney	1969-71
I.M. Hipp	1977-79
Jarvis Redwine	1979-80
Mike Rozier	1981-83
Keith Jones	1984-87
Ken Clark	1987-89
Derek Brown	1990-92
Calvin Jones	1991-93

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They suggested letting one of the players start and play until he got tired. But Cornhusker coach Tom Osborne didn't see the value of such an arrangement. "I don't think we're buying into this idea of playing one of them and let the other guy sit the whole game to see how well one guy can do," he said. "I think they're better off alternating in some way."

And so they did. Even though Brown started from the fifth game on in 1992, after alternating starts with Jones through the first four games, they continued to be I-backs 1 and 1-A.

Brown's 2,699 rushing yards also rank among the most quiet in Nebraska history, not because of their impact but rather because of his personality. He was soft-spoken, not flashy, which might have been, in part, a result of his arriving at the same time as the brash and always quotable Mitchell from Chicago.

Brown and Mitchell came to Lincoln in 1989. They enrolled as part-time students and worked to pay their way after coming up short of freshman eligibility requirements under the NCAA's Proposition 48. The NCAA rules were different then. Even though Brown and Mitchell couldn't practice with the team, they didn't sacrifice a season of eligibility by sitting out.

After achieving the minimum standardized test score, which Brown and Mitchell did two weeks apart, they still had four seasons to play.

Brown came from La Habra, Calif., where he was a prep All-American according to *Parade Magazine* and *USA Today* following a senior season at Servite High School in Anaheim in which he set an Orange County rushing record of nearly 2,400 yards. He also ran for 20 touchdowns and received the Glenn Davis Award as the top high school running back in California's southern section.

The attention he enjoyed at Servite turned to anonymity his first year at Nebraska. His job while try-

ing to become eligible included installing the plumbing in Nebraska's weight-room expansion on the west side of Memorial Stadium. It was an appropriate job, in a way, because Brown continued to be a regular in the weight room when he began playing for the Cornhuskers. The benefits of his dedication to lifting were obvious. Even though he stood only 5-foot-9, he was a powerful 190 pounds.

"They call me 'Weight Room' and stuff like that because I'm always in there," Brown once said.

He emerged from the enforced year off none the worse for wear. He went into his freshman season sharing the No. 3 I-back spot with junior George Achola. Leodis Flowers, also a junior, was No. 1. Scott Baldwin, a sophomore, was No. 2. Brown was the fastest of the I-backs, having run the 40-yard dash in 4.49 seconds.

Brown, who didn't play in the 1990 opener against Baylor, scored a touchdown on his first carry at Nebraska, taking the ball into the end zone from 1 yard out in the fourth quarter of a 60-14 victory over Northern Illinois. Later in the game, he ran 59 yards for a touchdown.

Two scores and 72 yards on five carries. Not a bad beginning.

A week later, Brown became the first freshman to start at I-back for Nebraska since 1974 when he replaced an injured Flowers against Minnesota. He responded by rushing for 120 yards and two touchdowns in a 56-0 victory.

Brown almost certainly would have been a contender for the award as the Big Eight's "Offensive Newcomer of the Year" if he hadn't suffered a shoulder separation in the Iowa State game. He missed the Colorado and Kansas games because of the injury and played only sparingly against Oklahoma.

As a result, his freshman totals were modest: 375 rushing yards and five touchdowns on 59 carries.

Brown was fully recovered for the Cornhuskers' Citrus Bowl against Georgia Tech at the end of the 1990 season. He rushed for 99 yards and one touchdown on only 11 carries. He also caught two passes for 12



**New Orleans gambled
by drafting Brown in the
fourth round of the 1993
NFL draft.**

yards. The game was otherwise forgettable from Nebraska's point of view. The Cornhuskers lost, 45-21.

Brown began his sophomore season as Baldwin's backup. But Baldwin suffered an ankle sprain on a 29-yard run in the first quarter of the opener against Utah State, and Brown took over, gaining 175 yards on 23 carries in a 59-28 victory that was delayed nearly 20 minutes during the third quarter because of lightning.

The rain that accompanied the lightning briefly turned Memorial Stadium into a water world playground for university students unconcerned about the obvious dangers.

Brown's start in 1991 also was something of a lightning strike. His name appeared on *USA Today's* "Heisman Watch," along with those of Brigham Young's Ty Detmer and Michigan's Desmond Howard. He carried 15 times for 121 yards and

In Brown's final regular-season game against Oklahoma, he rallied the Huskers to a come-from-behind 19-14 win.

two touchdowns in a 71-14 victory over Colorado State.

He ran for two touchdowns and 100 yards, in a 36-21 loss to Washington at Memorial Stadium.

He was the only running back to rush for 100 yards against the Huskies in 1991. Only one other team gained 100 yards rushing against them, in fact.

The next week, Brown rushed for 135 yards on 25 carries in 90-degree heat at Tempe, Ariz., as the Cornhuskers defeated Arizona State 18-9.

"I'm just trying to let people know I'm still here at Nebraska because I kind of faded away last year," Brown told reporters after the game.

Brown continued his streak of 100-yard rushing performances against Oklahoma State, gaining 143 yards and scoring three touchdowns in a 49-15 victory at Stillwater. Afterward, Oklahoma State coach Pat Jones was profuse in his praise.

"Nebraska's always had great backs. I thought Ken Clark was a good one," Jones said. "But Brown is

probably the best since Mike Rozier, and when it's all said and done, he (Brown) may be better than (Rozier)."

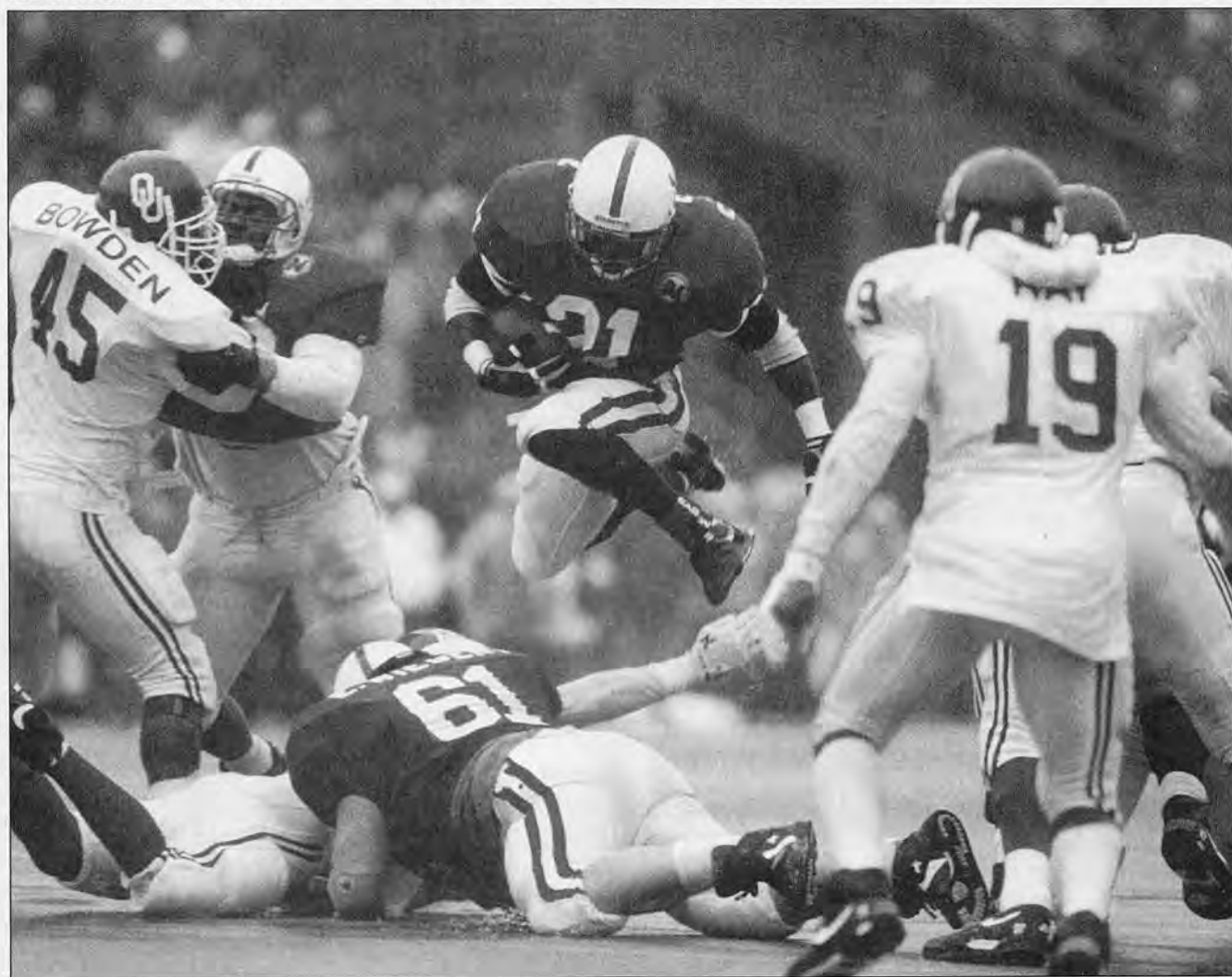
Inexplicably, Brown's name wasn't included in *USA Today's* "Heisman Watch" the next week.

Brown rushed for 145 yards against Kansas State and 118 yards against Missouri before his streak ended in the Cornhuskers' 19-19 tie with Colorado at Boulder. Even so, he turned in one of his better performances in the second half. After being held to 4 yards on 10 carries in the first half, Brown gained 92 yards on 20 carries in the second and scored the tying touchdown with 6:41 remaining.

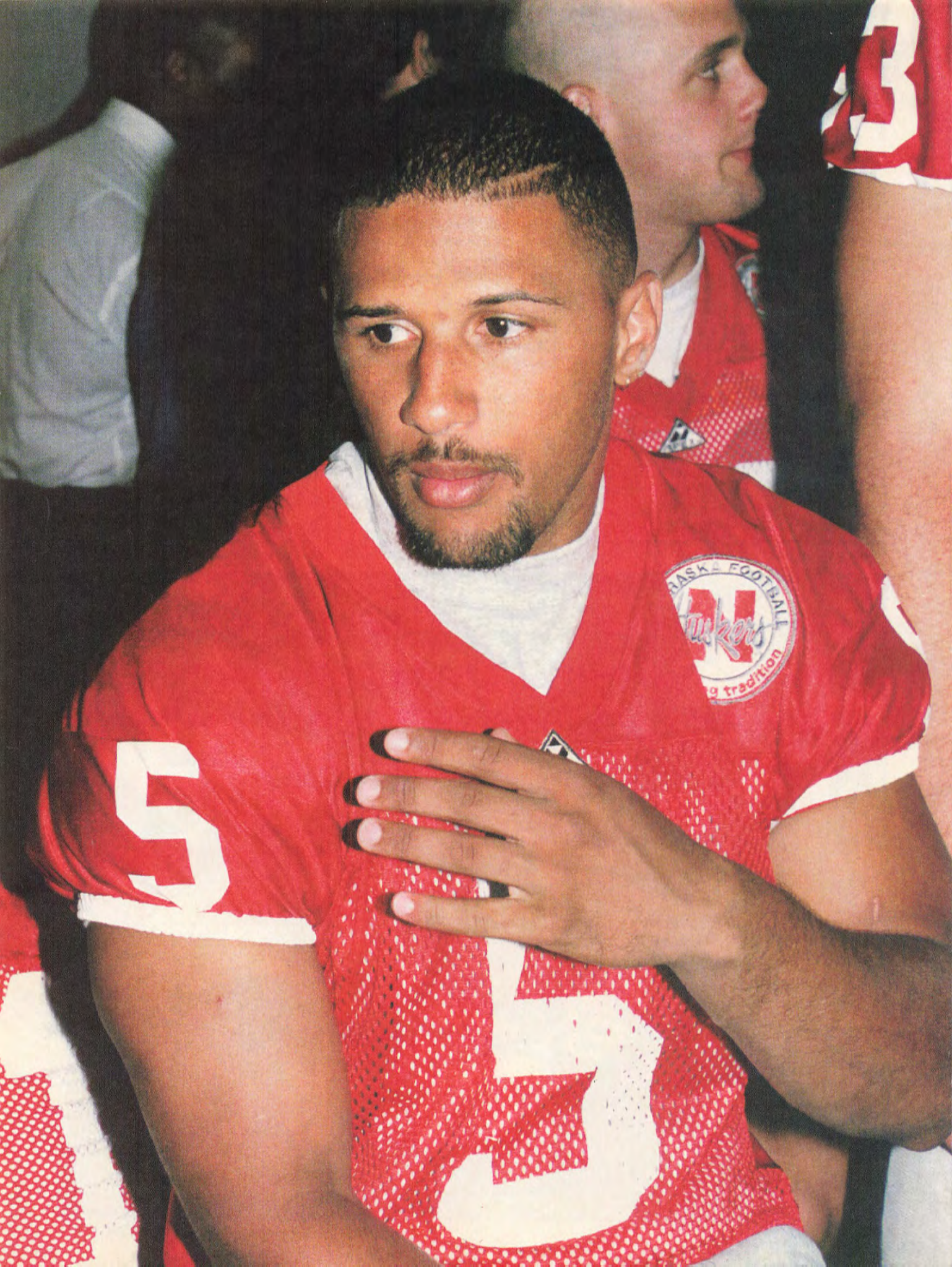
He finished the regular season with a similar performance against Oklahoma, rushing for 73 yards on 16 carries in the third quarter of a 19-14 comeback victory at Memorial Stadium.

By then, Brown and Jones were sharing time at I-back. They were Nebraska's dynamic duo, the "We-backs."

It was a remarkable combo. ■



William Lauer



HOME BOYS

The Cornhuskers' offense has had an unusually heavy in-state influence with 16 of the top 22 positions filled by native Nebraskans

Brendan Holbein attended his first Nebraska football game when he was 8 years old. The Cornhuskers played New Mexico State at Memorial Stadium in mid-September of 1982. The final score was 68-0.

"We sat in the nosebleed section," Holbein said. "We were way up there."

Holbein was impressed by a Nebraska team that included Mike Rozier, Turner Gill and Irving Fryar, all of whom were juniors in 1982. But he wasn't impressed enough to become a Cornhusker fan. Even though he grew up in Cozad, Holbein liked Oklahoma.

His affection for the Sooners was as inexplicable as it was unlikely. "Maybe it was because of 'Boomer Sooner' or something," he said.

He liked Oklahoma tailback Marcus Dupree, in particular. "I loved him," Holbein said. "I didn't know about Jarvis Redwine or Johnny Rodgers. I wasn't up on Nebraska history too much, I guess."

His allegiance to Sooner football was cause for consternation on the part of his parents, according to Holbein, but not exactly for the reason you might expect. Dr. Oliver Holbein, a veterinarian, and his wife, DeAnn, are Missouri graduates.

Holbein eventually grew out of his allegiance to the Sooners. But he was never a hard-line Nebraska fan, even in high school. He attended the Big Red football camp during the summers before his junior and senior years at Cozad High. But he considered accepting a scholarship from Iowa State before deciding to walk on at Nebraska.

He and Artis Garriss, a running back from Bellevue, made recruiting visits to Iowa State together. Immediately after their visits, both were offered scholarships. Garriss accepted. Holbein did not, even though the offer was attractive.

His willingness to walk on at Nebraska was a matter of pride, though not necessarily state pride. "This was a big-time program," Holbein said. "They played on television, and they played for national championships. It would have killed me not to give it a try here. At least I would know I gave it my best. I could have gone elsewhere, transferred, if it didn't work out. My gut instinct was to come here. I go on that (instinct) a lot. I couldn't not do it (walk on)."

Four years later, Holbein, a high school tailback, alternates with Reggie Baul at split end. Baul, like Holbein, walked on. And like Holbein, he is a Nebraskan. Baul is from Bellevue.

The Cornhuskers' offense has an unusually heavy in-state influence. Sixteen of the top 22 positions on the offensive depth chart have been filled by Nebraskans most of



Split end Brendan Holbein (left) and offensive lineman Chris Dishman (above) made the move from Cozad, Neb.

the season.

Until I-back Lawrence Phillips was reinstated, Nebraska's top four I-backs were from Omaha: Ahman Green, Damon Benning, Clinton Childs and James Sims. When red-shirted freshman Kenny Cheatham was sidelined by injury, the top four split ends were Nebraskans.

And so it went, all across the offensive depth chart. In addition to Phillips, the other non-Nebraskans on the two-deeps have been guard Aaron Taylor, center Aaron Graham, tight end Mark Gilman, wingback Jon Vedral and quarterbacks Tommie Frazier and Brook

Berringer. While Berringer was sidelined by bursitis, Matt Turman became Frazier's backup. Turman is a walkon from Wahoo.

Nebraska has been well-represented of offense. And that has been a plus. "Kids grow up (in the state) wanting Nebraska to win," said full-back Jeff Makovicka, who is from Brainard and played eight-man football at East Butler High School. He is followed on the depth chart by Brian Schuster, a walkon from Fullerton, and his brother, Joel Makovicka, also a walkon.

Nebraskans bring a special attitude to the program, according to

Jeff Makovicka. His senior year in high school, the Cornhuskers lost decisively to Georgia Tech in the Citrus Bowl, and "people were saying Nebraska football wasn't what it used to be. I didn't want people to talk that way about our program," he said. "The pride factor is big, so guys from Nebraska do whatever it takes to win."

Not that out-of-state athletes lack such commitment. Quite the contrary. The Cornhuskers' success depends on an aggressive recruiting effort from coast to coast and border to border. But an in-state influence is essential.

"In terms of attitude, I think it's like Jeff says: Nebraska guys are blue-collar workers," Holbein said. "They work extremely hard to play here."

Holbein and the other walkons, most of them Nebraskans, are uniquely qualified to speak about that. They are motivated by pride, which they often must swallow in order to walk on.

That was the case for Holbein. He rushed for 2,740 yards and 38 touchdowns as a senior at Cozad High and was chosen as the state's "Offensive Player of the Year" by the *Omaha World-Herald*. Holbein and teammate Chris Dishman were recruited by Nebraska and other schools. As the letter-of-intent signing date approached, however, the Cornhuskers cooled on Holbein as a scholarship recruit. That was understandable, to some extent.

Holbein would have to move from running back to receiver at Nebraska. "I thought I could play Division I football," he said. "I thought I was the caliber of player who could get the job done. But the thing they questioned was whether I could make the transition, how good of a blocker I could be. As a running back, I didn't have to block a whole lot in high school."

He left that to Dishman, with whom he has played football since the seventh grade. Holbein and Dishman led Cozad to the Class B state high school championship as seniors. Matt Hunting, another Cornhusker walkon, was a junior on that team. His dad, Gene Hunting, was the head coach.

Holbein remembers getting recruiting questionnaires when he was a high school sophomore. "I always knew I wanted to play football (in college), but the scholarship aspect of it didn't hit me, or Chris, until we were juniors, probably. We

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HUSKERS

had no idea what the letters were about. We sent out films. But we didn't know what all the questions meant. Then, everything kind of hit our junior year," he said.

He and Dishman were both good students. However, "we weren't in the top 10 percent of our class. We had some smart people. We knew we weren't going to get academic scholarships," Holbein said.

As a result, a football scholarship became more important. Nebraska told Dishman a scholarship was his for the taking, so he took it. "They told me I'd have to wait," Holbein said. "If I did well enough my first two years, then I'd get one."

The signing of letters of intent is often treated as a significant event at the high schools of the athletes. On the day Dishman signed with Nebraska, "Coach Hunting said I should have something to sign, too," Holbein said. Hunting contacted the Cornhusker football office, "which faxed something with Coach (Tom) Osborne's name on it. Chris signed the real papers. What I signed didn't mean anything."

Nebraska didn't have to look far to find some of its best runners. Clinton Childs (26) and Damon Benning (21) are both from Omaha, Neb.



Holbein didn't begrudge Dishman his scholarship. "I was happy for Chris," he said. "He earned it. He really deserved it."

But he was disappointed about being left out. He had been chosen by the Touchdown Club of Atlanta to receive a Bobby Dodd Award as the best high school running back in Nebraska. Yet, "a big headline in the *Omaha World-Herald* said something like: 'Cozad's Holbein Walks On.' That made it hard," Holbein said. "You think you're sitting on top of the world, and then it turns out dif-

ferently."

The determination born of that disappointment served Holbein well.

He redshirted his first year and studied the wide receivers. "I was little bit timid," he said. "I guess I was like most freshmen, afraid to run routes and look like a fool."

He earned a scholarship, as promised, and now draws regular praise from Ron Brown, his position coach, for his blocking prowess. Brown has described him as possibly the best blocking wide receiver at the major college level.

Holbein's attitude is characteristic of the team's in-state athletes. He'll do whatever it takes for the Cornhuskers to succeed.

Cory Schlesinger was the starting fullback on the national championship team last season, alternating with Jeff Makovicka. Schuster was No. 3. Schlesinger played at Columbus High, but he's from nearby Duncan.

At Schlesinger's wedding last spring, Frank Solich, Nebraska's assistant head coach and running backs coach, acknowledged the small-town Nebraska backgrounds of his top three fullbacks. "Coach Solich wondered what was in the water around here," Makovicka said.

It wasn't the water so much as the state. ■





The Search For Corners

Top prospects see the possibility of winning a national title at Nebraska, which should keep the pass defense solid for years

By JAMES HALE

One of the hardest positions to play in football is cornerback. For that reason, quality defensive backs are hard to find out of high school. Nebraska has a good shot at the best defensive backs available, and the Huskers also may convert several offensive players to defense.

Preseason All-American **Cory Robinson** (5-foot-11, 180 pounds, 4.4 40-yard dash) of Tucker, Ga., is the best pure cornerback in the South and is regarded as one of the top 10 in the country. He loves locking up in man-to-man coverage on the opponent's best receiver.

"Cornerback is really the most challenging position on the field," Robinson said. "You are constantly on an island, playing by yourself, where if I make a mistake the whole stadium knows it instantly. That kind of attention gets me going."

Robinson has heard from more than 60 schools. He is set to visit Georgia in January, and Robinson has told UCLA and Nebraska he will visit.

"I have a lot of respect for Tom

Osborne and what the Nebraska program accomplishes every year," Robinson said. "If I sign with them, I know I will have a great chance at playing for a national title at some point during my college career."

Robinson's best friend is Oklahoma wide receiver Gerald Williams (also from Tucker), which improves OU's chances. Clemson, Florida and Notre Dame are fighting for the final two visits.

Mike Brown (5-11, 190, 4.45) of Scottsdale (Ariz.) Saguaro is an extremely physical player. When he was 11, Brown moved to Arizona from Gainesville, Fla., and he remains a Florida fan.

Brown earned MVP honors at the Gators' summer camp, but USC was the early leader. Nebraska and Florida have slowly gained ground, and Arizona State also has a chance.

Nebraska has a good chance to sign the top defensive back prospect in Colorado, **Elan Edwards** (6-0, 175, 4.5) of Boulder.

"It doesn't matter where you live. If you play football, you have to be a Nebraska fan," Edwards said. "The



Marcus Stiggers is a high school quarterback who will switch to defense in college.

program has so much going for it that if they want me to take a look I certainly will."

USC is the current leader, just ahead of Nebraska, Colorado, UCLA

ON THE ISLAND

Nebraska's solid pass defense is sure to be bolstered by the Huskers' recent success. Several cornerbacks like the chance to win a national championship at NU. Here are some of the top prospects:

Player	Ht.	Wt.	40	High School	Schools Under Consideration
Damian Allen	5-10	170	4.4	LaVerne (Calif.)	NU, ND, STAN, UCLA
Adrian Beard	5-9	170	4.5	St. Louis West	IL, KAN, NU, TEN, TEX
LeAundre Brown	5-11	170	4.4	Fort Worth (Texas) Wyatt	MICH, OU, OH ST, TEX, A&M
Mike Brown	5-11	190	4.5	Scottsdale (Ariz.) Saguaro	ASU, FLA, NU, USC
Elan Edwards	6-0	175	4.5	Boulder, Colo.	AZ, COL, NU, UCLA, USC
J.R. Edwards	6-2	180	4.5	Lincoln Southeast	KAN, MICH, MO, NU, UCLA
John Gibson	6-0	180	4.5	Papillion-La Vista	AZ, BC, ND, NEB, WASH
Cory Robinson	5-11	180	4.4	Tucker, GA.	GA, NU, UCLA
Marcus Smith	5-11	175	4.5	Dallas Carter	AL, FLA, MIA, NU, TEX, A&M
Marcus Stiggers	5-6	175	4.4	Richardson (Texas) Lake Highlands	NU, FLA, BAY, TEN, A&M
Nate Turner	6-0	180	4.6	Los Angeles Jordan	MICH, NU, ND, UCLA, USC
Joe Walker	5-11	180	4.4	Arlington (Texas) Lamar	BAY, NU, OU, OH ST, A&M
Parnell Walton	5-9	192	4.4	Omaha Central	IA, IA ST, ND, NU

and Arizona.

John Gibson (6-0, 180, 4.45) of Papillion-La Vista and **Parnell Walton** (5-9, 192, 4.4) of Omaha Central have been mentioned in earlier reports at other positions — Gibson at wide receiver and Walton at running back. However, both have the skills to play cornerback and may wind up there in college.

Damian Allen (5-10, 170, 4.4) of LaVerne (Calif.) is the best cover corner in California. Allen lists UCLA, Notre Dame, Stanford and Nebraska as his top choices.

Nate Turner (6-0, 180, 4.55) of Los Angeles Jordan also is considering the Huskers. Turner scored 12 touchdowns last year and already has five this season. Nebraska leads Notre Dame, UCLA, USC and Michigan.

Texas has a top prospect in **Joe Walker** (5-11, 180, 4.4) of Arlington Lamar. He's a starting quarterback, but will switch to offense in college. He has rushed for 600 yards and 16 touchdowns and passed for 600 yards and five scores for 6-0 Lamar.

"My coach says I mean too much to the offense to play any on defense," Walker said. "When we get closer to the playoffs, I know I will play a lot at cornerback. That's probably where I am going to play in college, but I just want to enjoy my senior year at quarterback before I make the move."

Walker said he doesn't want to think about recruiting until his season is over. A&M, Baylor, Nebraska, OU and Ohio State are his top five.

LeAundre Brown (5-11, 170, 4.4) of Fort Worth (Texas) Wyatt is a pre-season All-American at cornerback who could see a lot of time at punt and kick returner. Texas A&M, Michigan, Ohio State, Oklahoma and Texas are also contenders.

The Huskers are the solid leader for **Marcus Stiggers** (5-6, 175, 4.4) of Richardson (Texas) Lake Highlands. He is an option quarterback for the Wildcats and is their leading rusher. He is being recruited as a cornerback and wide receiver. The Huskers like him as a corner and are way out in front of Florida, Baylor, Tennessee, Texas A&M and Texas Tech.

If the Huskers can land a few of these prospects, their defense will continue to be tough against the pass.

RECRUITING UPDATE: The Huskers recently received two commitments: running back **DeAngelo Evans** (5-9, 208, 4.4) of Wichita (Kan.) Collegiate and offensive lineman **Russ Hochstein** (6-4, 245, 5.0) of Hartington Central Catholic. ■

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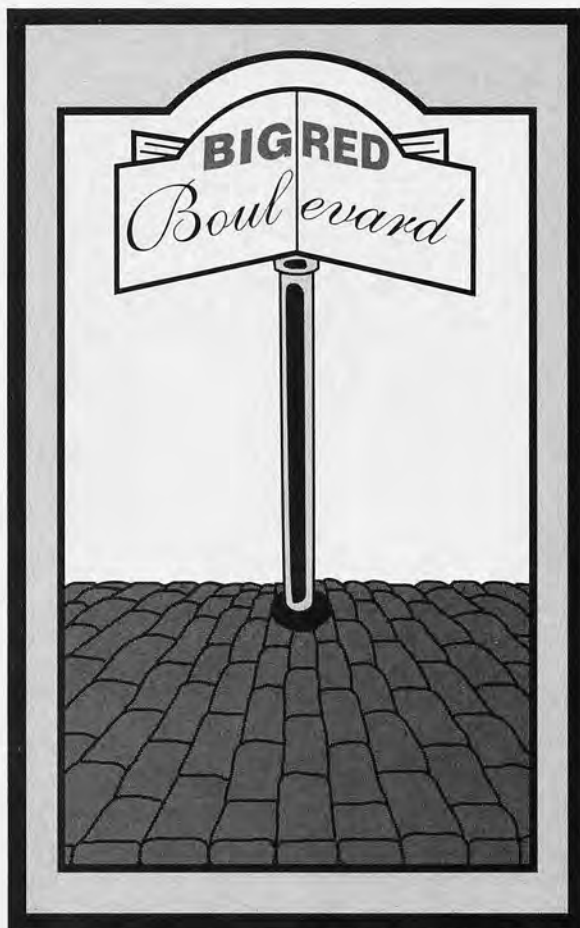


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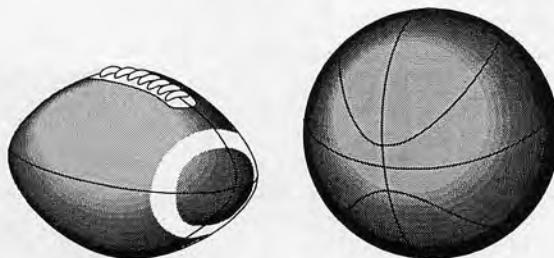


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Unfairly Judged

Osborne deserves the benefit of the doubt, even from those who disagree with his decision to allow Phillips to return

By MIKE BABCOCK

Lawrence Phillips emerged from the South Stadium's double doors after Nebraska's 73-14 victory over Iowa State last Saturday.

"There's Lawrence Phillips," someone said. Immediately, he was surrounded by youthful autograph seekers. He obliged their requests, patiently, before leaving.

The most difficult phase of his return to the team was over.

Considering the circumstances, it was accomplished smoothly, without incident. About five minutes into the first quarter, Phillips entered the game. He was greeted by what could be described as enthusiastic applause, without so much as a hint of disapproval. Some stood to applaud.

The reception seemed to reflect the compassion of the Memorial Stadium crowd, which numbered 75,505. "I was hoping they wouldn't boo him," said coach Tom Osborne, who reinstated Phillips the previous week.

The junior I-back had been suspended from the team after pleading no contest to misdemeanor charges resulting from an early-September assault of a former girlfriend.

"They can boo me," said Osborne, whose decision to allow Phillips to return to the team drew criticism from women's groups and was a part of a CBS television news report on winning at all costs. The report, which many Nebraska supporters felt contained some inaccuracies, was aired the previous evening on the network's newscast.

"I've gone from being too nice of a guy to kind of a villain who's doing all these dastardly things, like running up the score," Osborne said.

Bernard Goldberg of CBS did the report, after creating controversy at Osborne's weekly news conference on the Tuesday before the game. In the report, he claimed that Osborne's decision to reinstate Phillips was evidence of a win-at-all-costs mentality.

Phillips adamantly disagreed. "I think if that was his (Osborne's) motive, he would have never suspended me in the first place," Phillips said. "He's never been a guy who's been all about winning."

Defensive tackle Christian Peter
Bob Berry

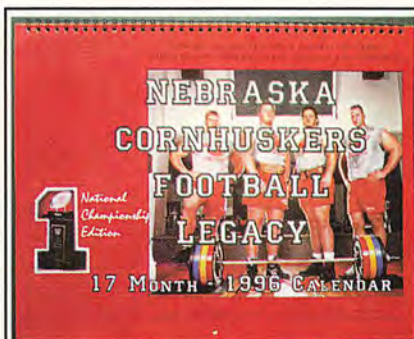


Despite showing the effects of the layoff, Phillips still managed 68 yards and a touchdown in limited action.

also came to Osborne's defense during the postgame news conference.

"Coach Osborne, he's unbelievable," said Peter. "He'll do anything for a player. Winning isn't everything (to him)."

Phillips began his postgame interview with a statement. "I appreciate coach Osborne giving me another chance to come out and play and all



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my teammates for supporting me and staying with me," he said.

He thanked "all the people in the community who supported me and believed in me and believed that I should have a second chance." And he thanked the university administration for allowing him to remain in school.

"I'm working on anger problems and going to counseling and stuff to get that situated," Phillips said. "I'm sorry that incident had to take place, and hopefully, something like that will never happen again."

Despite showing the effects of the layoff, Phillips gained 68 yards on 12 carries and scored Nebraska's eighth touchdown on a 13-yard run late in the third quarter. He gained 2 yards on his first carry after missing six games. He was the second I-back to play. True freshman Ahman Green started.

"Lawrence looked like a guy who hadn't played for five or six weeks," Osborne said. "I don't think Lawrence was the difference in the game. You can't take that much time off and not have it affect you."

Aside from that, "to me, he seemed like he was his old self," said quarterback Tommie Frazier. "He didn't seem any different to me."

A reporter from the ESPN cable television network asked about the chances of Phillips' regaining his starting job. "Lawrence would have to earn that spot back, and I wouldn't say he earned it today," Osborne replied. "I doubt if he's any better than second; he might be third."

Phillips was similarly direct about the way he played against Iowa State, describing his performance as "very average. So I think Ahman deserves the starting spot. He did a great job."

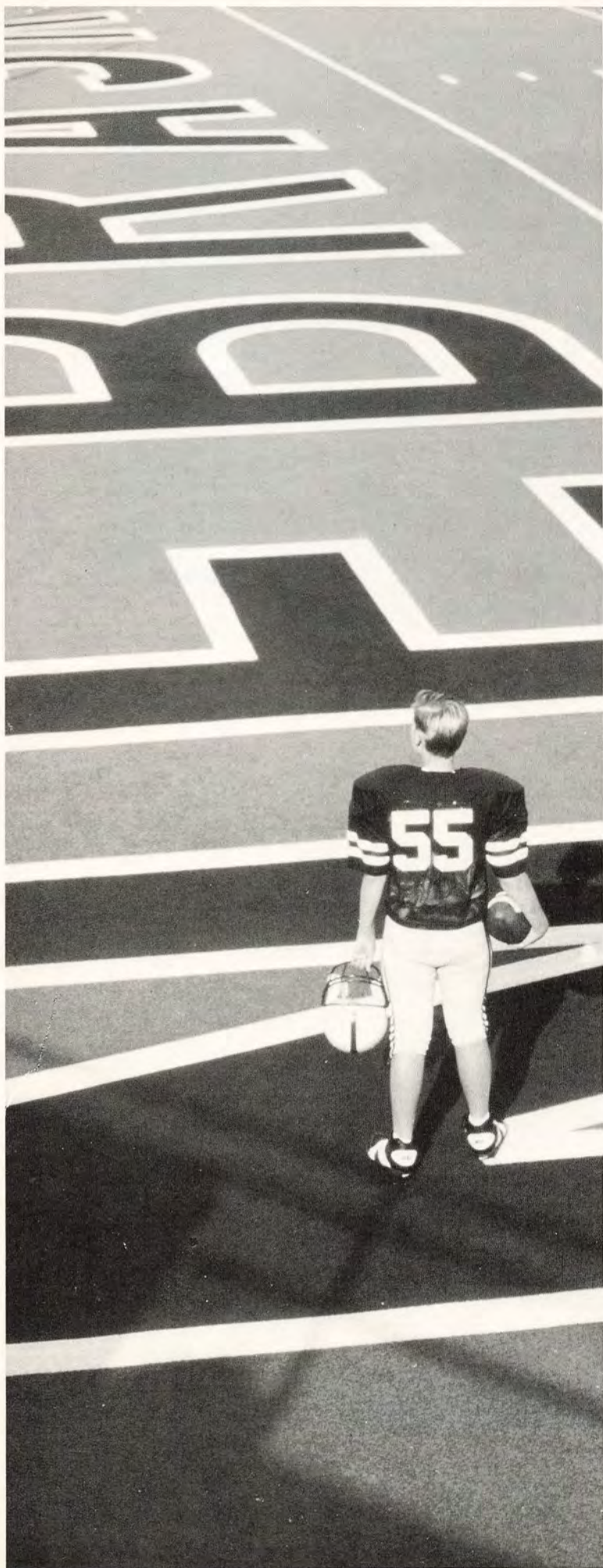
The crowd's positive response was lost on Phillips. "I was kind of trying to block it out because I didn't know what to expect," he said.

Neither did Osborne, whose conscientious attempt to do the right thing did not appear to be fully understood by everyone in the media.

"The thing I feel bad about are the people in the state who have seen what we've tried to do the past 30 years," Osborne said.

Osborne deserves better, even from those who disagree with his carefully considered decision.

This is not about winning and losing. It is about compassion, giving someone a second chance. ■



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